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For more information, contact:
Frances Breyne
Communications Director
785-296-4731

Health Care Commission Approves KHPA's Offer of Two Contracts

The Kansas State Employee Health Care Commission (HCC) today approved the Kansas Health Policy Authority's recommendation to offer health care services contracts to two additional vendors for the State Employee Health Plan. At its previous meeting, the HCC sent the agency and three vendors back to the bargaining table to continue negotiations that had begun earlier this year.

According to Director of State Employee Benefits Doug Farmer, "Having a variety of vendors in the State Employee Health Benefits Program provides healthy competition within the plan. This process insures that state employees receive the best quality coverage for the most reasonable cost available."

At its July 10, 2008 meeting, the HCC approved the KHPA's recommendation to offer contracts to Coventry Health Services and Preferred Health Services (PHS). The HCC also directed the KHPA to continue negotiations with three remaining vendors – Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas, the Government Employee Health Association, and United Health Care. Commissioners today voted to accept the KHPA's recommendations to offer contracts to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas and United Health Care.

For more information on State Employee Health Benefits, visit the KHPA website at:
<http://www.khpa.ks.gov/SEHBP/2008/default.htm>.

Rm. 900-N, Landon Building, 900 SW Jackson Street, Topeka, KS 66612-1220

www.khpa.ks.gov

Medicaid and HealthWave:
Phone: 785-296-3981
Fax: 785-296-4813

State Employee Health
Benefits and Plan Purchasing:
Phone: 785-368-6361
Fax: 785-368-7180

State Self Insurance Fund:
Phone: 785-296-2364
Fax: 785-296-6995